CAREER INSIGHTS & GUIDANCE



MAY 04, 2026 - TANJONG MALIM

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THE MAIN CHALLENGES FACING GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY TODAY

In my view, the main challenge facing graduate employability today is the mismatch between academic achievement and industry readiness. Many graduates possess theoretical knowledge but lack transferable skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and adaptability. Additionally, limited exposure to real-world industry environments reduces their confidence and professional awareness. Mindset is also crucial; some graduates expect immediate success without demonstrating resilience and continuous learning. Strengthening experiential learning, internships, and industry–university collaboration is essential to bridge this gap and enhance graduates' competitiveness in a rapidly evolving job market.

ADVICE FOR STUDENTS IN PREPARING FOR THEIR FUTURE CAREERS

Based on my experience, students should begin preparing for their careers early by developing both technical expertise and strong soft skills. Academic results are important, but employers also value communication, teamwork, leadership, and problem-solving abilities. Actively participate in internships, industry projects, and volunteer activities to gain real-world exposure. Build professional networks through lecturers, alumni, and industry engagements. Most importantly, cultivate a growth mindset—be open to feedback, continuously upgrade your skills, and stay adaptable to changing industry demands. Career success is a journey that requires persistence, self-awareness, and lifelong learning.

ONE CAREER LESSON LEARNED THE HARD WAY

One career lesson I learned the hard way is that competence alone is not enough—visibility and relationships matter. Early in my career, I focused solely on delivering quality work, assuming it would automatically be recognized. However, I later realized the importance of communicating contributions, building professional networks, and seeking mentorship. That turning point taught me to be proactive, strategic, and intentional in shaping my own career path rather than waiting for opportunities to appear.

"CAREER SUCCESS IS A JOURNEY THAT REQUIRES PERSISTENCE, SELF-AWARENESS, AND LIFELONG LEARNING"



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